

Message Text

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ACTION AID-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 IGA-01 EB-04 AGR-05 SWF-01

CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 COME-00 TRSE-00 L-01

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R 020439Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8035

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 17342

E.O 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, TH, EAGR

SUBJECT: LAOS RICE EXPORTS

REF: STATE 238601

1. ACCORDING TO KHUN KASEM, CHIEF RICE EXPORT DIVISION
FOREIGN TRADE DEPT., MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, EARLY IN 1974
A CONTRACT WAS MADE FOR SHIPMENT FROM LAOS TO HONG KONG
OF 500 METRIC TONS OF WHITE RICE 5 PERCENT BROKENS. THE FIRST
SHIPMENT OF 200 METRIC TONS ARRIVED IN HONG KONG IN
APRIL 1974. THE QUALITY OF THE RICE DID NOT MEET STANDARDS
AND THE CONTRACT WAS CANCELLED. NO ADDITIONAL SHIPMENTS
WERE MADE.

2. COMMENT: THE LAOS RICE SHIPMENT MAY HAVE BEEN THAI
RICE. LAOS EXPORTERS MUST HAVE A TRANSIT PERMIT TO MOVE
RICE THROUGH THAILAND. THERE IS CONSIDERABLE SPECULATION
THAT THE RICE SHIPPED TO HONG KONG WAS LOADED FOR TRANSIT
IN THAILAND AND THE ORIGIN OF THE RICE WAS NORTHEAST
THAILAND. EXPORTERS USING THIS METHOD COULD AVOID
PAYMENT OF THE HIGH THAI EXPORT PREMIUM AND DOUBLE THEIR
PROFITS ON THE EXPORT.

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: smithrj
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Review Comment: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Markings:

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30 JUN 2005

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